

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4780

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2505

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN PU PO AO MZ US

SUBJ: MEETING OF NEW PORTUGUESE PERM REP WITH AMB

SCALI, JULY 19

1. NEW PORTUGUESE PERM REP JOSE VEIGA SIMAO PAID COURTESY CALL ON AMB SCALI JULY 19. HE EMPHASIZED IT WAS HIS FIRST CALL ON ANOTHER PERM REP SINCE PRESENTING CREDENTIALS TO SYG JULY 18.

2. SIMAO BEGAN BY EXPRESSING SATISFACTION OVER AZORES MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENTS NIXON AND SPINOLA.

3. SIMAO THEN TURNED TO A DISCUSSION OF GUINEA-BISSAU. "BY AUGUST 15", PORTUGAL WILL RECOGNIZE INDEPENDENCE OF G-B. SPINOLA WILL VISIT BISSAU, ASK FOR DECISION BY PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (WHICH WILL OPT FOR INDEPENDENCE), AND PORTUGAL THEN WILL SPONSOR G-B ENTRY INTO UN VIA SC. TALKS ARE GOING ON NOW IN BISSAU BETWEEN PORTUGUESE AND PAIGC. AN IMPORTANT
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LINK HAS BEEN SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENGHOR, WHO HAS BEEN

EXERCISING MODERATE INFLUENCE OVER PAIGC, AS AGAINST GUINEA'S SEKOU TOURE. SYG WILL VISIT LISBON JULY 28-30 TO DISCUSS G-B WITH GOP PRIOR TO TRAVELING TO GENEVA. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THIS G-B SETTLEMENT; RATHER, THEIR FATE WILL BE DETERMINED IN FUTURE. AMB BENNETT, WHO WAS PRESENT AT MEETING, DESCRIBED TO SIMAO US ROLE IN ATTEMPTING DELAY G-B ADMISSION APPLICATION IN SC UNTIL NEGOTIATIONS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. PROSPECTS NOW LOOK GOOD THAT ABOVE SCENARIO MOST WILL BE AWAITED BEFORE PAIGC MOVES.

4. SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE IS NOT SAME AS THAT EXISTING IN G-B, HOWEVER, SIMAO CONTINUED. TO SAFEGUARD INTERESTS OF PORTUGUESE SETTLERS AND INVESTMENTS OF OTHERS AS WELL, SIMAO SUGGESTED A UN "GUARANTEE" AND A UN ROLE IN SUPERVISING REFERENDA IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE TO DETERMINE POLITICAL WISHES OF PEOPLE FOR FUTURE. PORTUGUESE MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TERRITORIES WILL BE SENDING AN OUTLINE TO SIMAO CONCERNING TYPE OF FORMULA HE WISHES TO PROPOSE. SIMAO PROMISED TO DISCUSS SCHEME AT GREATER LENGTH WITH US WHEN THAT MATERIAL ARRIVES. IN PASSING, SIMAO REFLECTED THAT SAO TOME SHOULD LOGICALLY BE LINKED WITH ANGOLA IN ANY POLITICAL SOLUTION.

5. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT INTERNAL PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTS, WARNED OF CONTINUING IMPORTANCE OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY, PARTICULARLY PCP'S ROLE IN DEMOCRATIC FRONT. PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS, HE OBSERVED, ARE MAKING ALL THE RIGHT SOUNDS AND HAVE MUCH APPEAL, EXCEPT IN NORTH. THEY EVEN ARE MAKING INROADS IN MUNICIPALITIES IN NORTH, HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN WHAT IS REGARDED TO BE "RESPECTABLE" FRONT. BEST SOLUTION, HE BELIEVES, WOULD BE FOR SOCIALISTS AND POPULAR DEMOCRATS TO DISSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM FRONT. IN PASSING, SIMAO SAID NONE OF US WOULD LIKE PORTUGAL TO BECOME "ANOTHER CUBA". PORTUGAL NEEDS US HELP, SAID SIMAO, ESPECIALLY WITH A BAD ECONOMIC CRISIS ANTICIPATED IN OCTOBER. CONCLUDING HIS DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS, SIMAO SAID THAT EX-PREMIER PALMA CARLOS WAS "WELL RESPECTED", BUT HIS PROPOSALS FOR DELAYING PARTLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WHILE ADVANCING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS WERE NOT ACCEPTABLE.

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6. AMB SCALI ASSURED SIMAO OF USG'S INTEREST IN ASSISTING PORTUGAL, EXPRESSING OUR FULL RECOGNITION OF DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS FACING SIMAO'S COUNTRY.

SCALI

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